



Head of Social Cohesion – The Huddle

About the Huddle

Established in 2010, The Huddle is a joint initiative of the North Melbourne Football Club, the Scanlon Foundation and the Australian Multicultural Foundation with the aim to engage, support and empower young people to build on their strengths, increase their ability to participate in society and contribute to more socially inclusive communities.

Since inception, The Huddle programs have engaged more than 60,000 young people from the areas of North Melbourne, Flemington, Kensington and West Melbourne. More recently, The Huddle's programs have grown to support youth in some of Australia's fastest growing and culturally diverse communities including Wyndham. The Huddle is now extending its reach and impact to support more young people across Tasmania.

The Huddle will engage, support and empower young people to **Learn, Grow and Belong** in their community through a range of initiatives with a focus on sport and recreation, education and careers, digital skill and civic participation.

The Huddle's work has been recognised as innovative and best practice, evidenced by numerous awards, including (but not limited to):

- 2012 Victorian Premier's Award for Community Harmony;
- 2013 National Migration and Settlement Awards for Leadership;
- 2014 Victorian Community Sport and Recreation Minister's Award; and
- 2016 Melbourne Award for contribution to multiculturalism.

More information about The Huddle can be found at www.nmfc.com.au/thehuddle, or on our Facebook (huddlenmfc), Instagram (@huddlenmfc) or Twitter pages (@huddlenmfc).

Overview

The Huddle is recruiting a Head of Social Cohesion to lead the roll-out of a new community support and inclusion program funded by the Department of Health and Human Services designed to support community resilience and strengthen protective factors against anti-social behaviours through a range of primary prevention activities with a focus on engaging and empowering the Somali Australian community.

This is a full-time fixed-term 24-month position with key deliverables and stakeholder relationships across the North Melbourne and Wyndham regions.

Responsibilities and Duties

- Primarily responsible for the design, implementation and evaluation of evidence-based programs that support pathways for children, young people, parents and families from Somali Australian communities across North Melbourne and Wyndham regions.
- Establishes and maintains partnerships and extensive networks at a regional and local level with schools, cultural and religious leaders, families and community organisations to support effective program delivery, growth in participation and support of at-risk children and youth.
- Leads community engagement and consultation with the Somali Australian communities to facilitate their participation and contribution in local and regional initiatives.
- Explore opportunities to generate income in line with annual funding targets to support growth and longevity of the program following demonstration phase.
- Participate in and advisory and advocacy capacity on regional and local working groups to advance the strategic support of Somali Australian communities across North Melbourne and Wyndham regions.
- Contributes to regional annual work plans with regular monitoring and reporting against Key Performance Indicators. Regularly exchanges knowledge and information with other staff to strengthen cultural awareness of Somali Australian communities and the reach, impacts and benefits of The Huddle.
- Responsible for developing and maintaining detailed program briefs with clear deliverables against timelines, budget, risk mitigation strategies and stakeholder partnerships. Maintains annual budgets, including accountability for program expenses and resource allocation.
- Assists with and contributes to the development of clear and concise reports to highlight the breadth and depth of activities being undertaken at a regional level, suitable for reporting to State Government Departments, Board and Program Advisory Committees.

- Contributes to the collection, management and reporting of data of participants, volunteers and stakeholders.
- Regularly identifies facts/figures, stories and case studies to support high quality and timely communications. Works closely with the Media Coordinator, Community of the North Melbourne Football Club to maintain a calendar of communications and events/activities across regions.
- Maintains a safe, inclusive and welcoming 'learning environment' for all participants taking into account diverse mix of cultural and religious requirements.
- Assists and contributes to preparation of submissions to promote The Huddle's work through conferences, symposiums and awards ceremonies.

Skills & Attributes

The Head of Social Cohesion will possess the following skills and attributes:

- Qualifications and extensive senior leadership experience in education, career planning or social work is highly regarded
- Demonstrated understanding of the issues facing children, young people, parents, women and families from Somali communities across North Melbourne and Wyndham regions.
- Experience in designing and implementing innovative approaches to support outcomes for children, young people, parents, women and families from Somali backgrounds, in particular those that are disengaged from the education and employment.
- Experience in communicating with people who may have limited proficiency in English. Excellent communication skills (oral and written) in English and Somali is highly desirable.
- Ability to influence and gain support and assistance of parents, cultural leaders and other community agencies.
- Excellent operational and project management skills. Experience in research and evaluation is highly regarded.
- Strong analytical and problem-solving skills
- Proven ability to influence and negotiate positive outcomes
- Flexibility, with the ability to adapt to different situations and groups of people
- Team worker, with a 'can do' mentality

Requirements

- To undergo a selection process including interviews, reference checks and a Working with Children Check. Any placement or position is subject to satisfactory checks.
- A current driver's licence.
- Ability to follow the policies and procedures of The Huddle.
- To participate in regular meetings for support, training and review
- Be over the age of 18.

Location

The position is based at The Huddle in North Melbourne reporting to the Manager, Education and Careers. The role is required to travel and balance their time equally across North Melbourne and Wyndham regions.

How to Apply

Please forward your written application together with your resume to employment@nmfc.com.au.

Note that we are unable to reply to every application. Only those applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.

Applications close at 9am on Monday the 27th of August.